

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BERLIN 07240 090950Z

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SUBJECT: EAST BERLIN COMMENTS ON THE BUCHAREST WARSAW PACT MEETING.

REF: BUCHAREST 7038

1. SUMMARY: AN OFFICIAL SED POLITBURO STATEMENT AND A NEUS DEUTSCHLAND (ND) EDITORIAL ON THE RESULTS OF THE BUCHAREST CONFERENCE DIFFER ONLY SLIGHTLY FROM THE CONFERENCE DECLARATION IN NEGLECTING TO MENTION MBFR WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF MILITARY DETENTE. GDR COVERAGE FOCUSES ON THE PRINCIPLE OF NON-INTERFERENCE IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS, INDICATIVE OF THE GDR'S SPECIAL CONCERN WITH THE FRG, ALTHOUGH BOTH STATEMENTS SHOW RESTRAINT IN NOT MENTIONING THE FRG BY NAME. END SUMMARY.

2. THE BUCHAREST MEETING OF THE WARSAW PACT PARTY CHIEFS IS THE SUBJECT OF AN SED POLITBURO STATEMENT PUBLISHED
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PAGE 02 BERLIN 07240 090950Z

IN ND ON DECEMBER 3 AND AN AUTHORITATIVE ND EDITORIAL

OF NOVEMBER 29, BOTH PRESENTING THE RESULTS OF THE BUCHAREST GATHERING FROM THE GDR PERSPECTIVE. BOTH ARE GENERALLY MODERATE IN TONE AND BEGIN BY ECHOING THE BUCHAREST DECLARATION IN STATING THAT DETENTE AND PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE ARE PREVAILING IN THE INTERNATIONAL ARENA, THAT THE HELSINKI FINAL ACT FORMS A BASIS FOR FURTHER PROGRESS IN DETENTE, AND THAT MILITARY DISARMAMENT SHOULD BE TREATED IN THE NEXT STAGE. THEY THUS PORTRAY THE BUCHAREST MEETING AS PRIMARILY A FOLLOW-UP TO THE HELSINKI CONFERENCE OFFERING CONCRETE SUGGESTIONS FOR MILITARY DETENTE IN EUROPE.

3. THE GDR STATEMENTS GIVE WARSAW PACT PROPOSALS ON DISARMAMENT AND NON-FIRST USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS THEIR DUE, BUT FAIL TO MENTION THE CALL FOR MOVEMENT IN THE MBFR NEGOTIATIONS CONTAINED IN THE BUCHAREST DECLARATION. THE ND EDITORIAL ALMOST PLEADINGLY STATES THAT THE COMMUNIST STATES WOULD GLADLY DIVERT RESOURCES CURRENTLY ALLOCATED FOR MILITARY PURPOSES TO THE BUILDING OF SOCIALISM AND COMMUNISM. IT GOES ON TO NOTE, HOWEVER, THAT TO CURB THE FORCES OF MILITARISM IN THE WEST IT HAS BEEN NECESSARY TO STRENGTHEN MILITARY TROOPS IN THE EAST. THE EDITORIAL THEN SAYS THAT THE WARSAW PACT COUNTRIES ARE PREPARED TO REDUCE THEIR WEAPONRY, BUT MAKES NO MENTION OF FORCE REDUCTIONS.

4. THE ND EDITORIAL ALSO GOES ONE STEP BEYOND THE BUCHAREST DECLARATION BY ADDING "NEONAZISM" TO MILITARISM AND REVANCHISM AS A CAUSE OF THE ARMS RACE, YET ANOTHER INDICATION OF THE GDR'S PARTICULAR FOCUS ON THE FRG. THE EDITORIAL FURTHER REVEALS GDR CONCERNS WITH THE FRG BY MENTIONING ON TWO SEPARATE OCCASIONS THE PRINCIPLE OF NON-INTERFERENCE IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF OTHER STATES. WITHOUT MENTIONING THE FRG BY NAME, THE EDITORIAL NOTES THAT THERE ARE THOSE WHO ATTACK THE "TERRITORIAL AND POLITICAL REALITIES RESULTING FROM THE SECOND WORLD WAR". CERTAIN FORCES, MOREOVER, USE ECONOMIC RELATIONS AS A MEANS OF INTERFERING IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF OTHER STATES. THE EDITORIAL REPEATS BUT DOES NOT ELABORATE UPON THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 BERLIN 07240 090950Z

DECLARATION'S WORDING ON BERLIN.

5. ON HELSINKI, THE ND EDITORIAL IS A BIT STRONGER THAN THE BUCHAREST DECLARATION IN CHARACTERIZING WESTERN ATTEMPTS TO USE "SO-CALLED HUMAN CONTACTS" TO MIX IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF OTHER COUNTRIES. BOTH STATEMENTS FAIL TO DEAL IN DEPTH WITH BELGRADE BEYOND A BRIEF MENTION IN THE PLITBURO STATEMENT THAT TREATING THE HELSINKI

FINAL ACT AS A WHOLE WILL CREATE THE BEST CONDITIONS FOR THE BELGRADE MEETING.

6. WELCOMING BUCHARES STATEMENTS ON POINTS OF CONFLICT IN OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD, THE PLITBURO STATEMENT EXPRESSES SOLIDARITY WITH THE THIRD WORLD AND THE GDR'S RESOLVE TO FULFILL ITS "INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS".

7. REGARDING RELATIONS AMONG THE WARSAW PACT COUNTRIES, NEITHER THE ND EDITORIAL NOR THE POLITBURO STATEMENT EMPLOY "PROLETARIAN INTERNATIONALISM" NOR "SOCIALIST INTERNATIONALISM", THE STANDARD TERMS DEALING WITH INNER-BLOC RELATIONS. BOTH GREET ORGANIZATIONAL CHANGES ANNOUNCED AT BUCHAREST WITHOUT MUCH ELABORATION. IN WHAT MAY BE A NOD TOWARD WESTERN EUROCOMMUNISTS, THE ND EDITORIAL CITES ECPC AND REPEATS THE WILLINGNESS OF EUROPEAN COMMUNIST PARTIES TO COOPERATE WITH "OTHER POLITICAL AND SOCIAL FORCES" FOR THE REDUCTION OF TENSIONS.

8. THE QUESTION OF DISCRIMINATORY ECONOMIC REGULATIONS RECEIVES SPECIAL MENTION IN THE ND EDITORIAL LACKING IN THE PLITBURO STATEMENT. THE ARTICLE CONDEMNS THE PRACTICE BY "A FEW CAPITALIST COUNTRIES" OF MAINTAINING DISCRIMINATORY REGULATIONS IN TRADE WITH COMMUNIST COUNTRIES AND DECLARES THAT THE WARSAW PACT NATIONS SEEK ON-TERM COMPREHENSIVE COOPERATION SPECIFICALLY IN THE AREAS OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND PRODUCTION. THE EDITORIAL REPEATS BUCHAREST'S CALL FOR AN EVEN BROADER COOPERATION IN AN "ALL EUROPEAN" FRAMEWORK ON ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORTATION, ENERGY, CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL MATTERS. REFLECTING ON THE MUTUAL BENEFITS OF COOPERATION WITHIN THE WARSAW PACT, IT MENTIONS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 04 BERLIN 07240 090950Z

WITH PRIDE THAT AN EAST GERMAN COSMONAUT WILL PARTICIPATE IN A JOINT SOVIET/EAST EUROPEAN SPACE PROGRAM SET FOR 1978-83.

9. COMMENT: THE GDR'S PORTRAYAL OF THE BUCHAREST DECLARATION CONTAINS NO SURPRISES BEYOND THE SLIGHT SHIFTS IN EMPHASIS NOTED ABOVE. THE PROPOSED TREATY ON NON-FIRST USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS IS MENTIONED AS A SIGNIFICANT INITIATIVE FOR DISARMAMENT, BUT IS NOT DWELT UPON.

10. EAST GERMANY IS STILL EXPERIENCING THE AFTERSHOCKS OF THE BIERMANN AFFAIR, ONE ASPECT OF WHICH HAS BEEN PARTICULARLY UNSETTLING TO THE GDR: THE EXTENSIVE REPLAY BY WEST GERMANY MEDIA WHICH THE GDR HAS DEcriED AS INTER-

REFERENCE IN ITS INTERNAL AFFAIRS. IT IS INTERESTING THAT
THE GDRIN COMMENTING ON THE BUCHAREST DECLARATION
CHOSE NOT TO USE STRONGER LANGUAGE AND NOT TO ATTACK THE
FRG BY NAME. POLANKSY

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